

Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Maryland

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Baltimore City
FOR NPS USE ONLY

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"St. John's was the first in a series of American churches inspired by the plans of St. Michael's, Long Stanton, (England) and St. James the Less (Philadelphia)." (1) Erected in 1847, this church was representative of the Ecclesiological movement in church architecture, for "in the 1840's mature Gothic revivalism appeared in American architecture largely because the Cambridge Camden Society (later the Ecclesiological Society), an English and eminently Anglican group, had resolved to do what it could to influence the design of churches outside the British Isles." (2) Bishop William R. Whittingham of Maryland became an early member and patron of the society and through his influence St. John's was built in the Gothic style recommended for American country churches and exemplified by the above mentioned models. No architect can be assigned; however, parish records name Abraham Bucher as "in charge of building the church."

The appearance of St. John's as it was built in 1847 will never be known, for it was burned in 1858 and rebuilt on the remains of the original walls and foundations. The characteristic arrangement of chimney and south porch have survived. The tower was added in 1849 according to plans suggested by Frank Wills. The trancepts and chancel were later additions (1878).

The present structure is of stone with granite and wood trim and Early English in style. The nave consists of four bays each with lancet window and stone buttresses. On the south is the porch and chimney already mentioned. The south transept also contains: double door with stained glass lights and transom, flanked by lancet windows. Above this door is a large cinquefoil window. The north transept is similar, although there has been a shallow addition along the north side of the nave which does not interfere with the integrity of the whole.

The chancel and choir are on the east as dictated by tradition. Above the altar is a tripartite window with the figure of Christ flanked by St. Matthew and St. Luke.

The bell tower on the northwest corner contains an arched doorway surmounted by double lancet windows with a large pointed louvered aperture above, which is repeated on all four sides. The spire is of the broach type, broken at intervals by small triangular windows. The remainder of the west facade contains a large pointed stained glass window.

Inside, the walls are finished in plaster with exposed ceiling ribs. The carved pews and richly carved reredow are stained oak. Several of the original stained glass windows have survived.

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Phoebe B. Stanton, The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, (Baltimore, 1968) p. 274.

² Ibid., p.3.

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	Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
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REAS	Aboriginal Prehistoric Historic Agriculture Architecture Art Commerce Communications	Education Engineering Industry Invention Landscape Architecture Military	Political Religion/Philosophy Science Sculpture Social/Humanitarian Theater	Urban Planning Other (Specify)
•	☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	
St. corn	ner of York Road e Huntingdon der	ant Episcopal Chur l and Old York Roa rives from the ear	ch of Huntingdon, d in Waverly was f ly community laid ero in 1688 and kno	ounded in 1843. out on land

in the 19th century and the establishment of a post office there.

The first regular services were held in a stone building located thirty yards southwest of the present church and known as The Barracks, a powder magazine and post for Federal troops. The Reverand W. A. Hewitt was sent to the village by Bishop William R. Whittingham at the request of Thomas A. Hart who wished to have some of his grandchildren baptized. As a result, a vestry was incorporated on July 10, 1844, and in the suceeding August, The Barracks property was purchased by the Charles C. Gibson family from the federal government for \$12,000 and presented to the congregation. In 1845, Mr. Hewitt became the rector and on April 22, 1847, the cornerstone of the church was laid.

In January, 1849, Doctor W. T. Wilson purchased a lot adjoining the churchyard on the south and erected a parish school building at his own expense. This school was well attended until the public school system became popular and it was finally closed in 1902. The building is still standing and in use for offices and a parish hall.

On May 15, 1858, the church was set on fire by an arsonist who first burglarized it. It was virtually destroyed. A new structure was begun almost immediately, using the remains of the foundations and walls. This church building was consecrated in 1860 and is the present church. A rectory was built to the north in 1868 and an orphanage for boys was established in 1885. (The latter was closed in 1912 and has been demolished). The cemetery which was begun in the 1850's, completes the complex a charming bit of Victoriana surviving amidst the hustle of commerce and traffic which is the Waverly of today.

Prominent among the parishoners of St. John's were Jacob Aull, a builder, who constructed many of the fine homes in the original Huntingdon community Mr. Aull published a book, Baltimore Landmarks, in 1843 in which were pictured many of the nearby structures, including The Barracks.

(see continuation sheet)

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Maryland 6	3-3731
COUNTY	
Baltimore C	ity
FOR NPS USE OF	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church

No. 8. Significance continued.

Samuel Wyman, a wealthy merchant and philanthropist, was responsible for many of the improvements to the church and gave an ananymous gift of nearly one half of the cost of rebuilding following the fire. Charles H. Dickey, another member of the parish, was President of the Consolidated Gas Company of Baltimore, and Talbot Denmead, President of the Maryland State Game and Fish Protective Association, donated land beyond the city limits for the establishment of a mission, St. Michael's Chapel. Perhaps the most beloved and best known of the many prominent parishoners was a woman, Lizette Woodworth Reese, a teacher and writer who immortalized St. John's in two of her books, A Victorian Village and The York Road. She taught at the parish school from 1873 to 1875 and following a long career as a teacher in the Eastern High School, was buried in St. John's Cemetery.

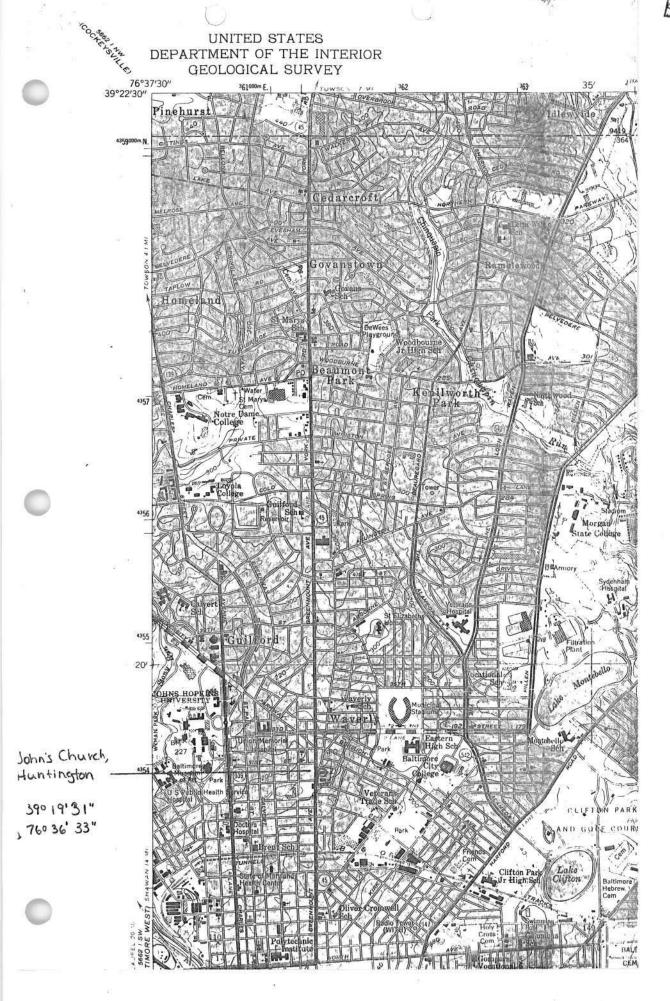
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

St: :

J. Thomas Scharf. History of Baltimore City and Baltimore County. Louis H. Evarts. (Philadelphia, 1881), p.888.

Phoebe B. Stanton. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture. The Johns Hopkins Press. (Baltimore, 1968), pp.3, 274.

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Form 10-301 (July 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
St. John's Protestant	5.0	
Episcopal Church	St. John's Church, Hunting	toh
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Maryland	Baltimore City	Baltimore
3009 Greenmount Avenue		
3009 Greenmount Avenue 3. MAP REFERENCE	DATE	SCALE
3. MAP REFERENCE	May. 1973	Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation 402 City Hall,

Southeast view

GPO 932-010



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST



INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY B-3731

HISTORIC			
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AND/OR COMMON	al . 1 l B	ttout Buissanol	Charack
	St. John's Pi	rotestant Episcopal	Church
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STATE		VICINITY OF	COUNTY
	Maryland		
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	BEING CONSIDERED	_YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL _TRANSPORTAT
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CONDITION

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CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT __GOOD

__DETERIORATED

__UNALTERED

_XORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE

_FAIR

_RUINS

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"St. John's was the first in a series of American churches inspired by the plans of St. Michael's, Long Stanton, (England) and St. James the Less (Philadelphia)." (1) Erected in 1847, this church was representative of the Ecclesiological movement in church architecture, for "in the 1840's mature Gothic revivalism appeared in American architecture largely because the Cambridge Camden Society (later the Ecclesiological Society), an English and eminently Anglican group, had resolved to do what it could to influence the design of churches outside the British Isles." (2) Bishop William R. Whittingham of Maryland became an early member and patron of the society and through his influence St. John's was built in the Gothic style recommended for American country churches and exemplified by the above mentioned models. No architect can be assigned; however, parish records name Abraham Bucher as "in charge of building the church."

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The bell tower on the northwest corner contains an arched doorway surmounted by double lancet windows with a large pointed louvered aperture above, which is repeated on all four sides. The spire is of the broach type, broken at intervals by small triangular windows. The remainder of the west facade contains a large pointed stained glass window.

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Phoebe B. Stanton, The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, (Baltimore, 1968) p. 274.

⁽²⁾ Ibid., p.3.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW PERIOD _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE **E**RELIGION _COMMUNITY PLANNING _ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC PREHISTORIC _LAW _SCIENCE _CONSERVATION _ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __1400-1499 __LITERATURE _SCULPTURE __ECONOMICS AGRICULTURE __1500-1599 _SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN __MILITARY EDUCATION _1600-1699 ARCHITECTURE MUSIC _THEATER KENGINEERING _1700-1799 _TRANSPORTATION *PHILOSOPHY _COMMERCE _EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __1800-1899 __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _OTHER (SPECIFY) _INDUSTRY ₹1900-__COMMUNICATIONS _INVENTION 19th century

SPECIFIC DATES

1847-1858

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church of Huntingdon, situated at the corner of York Road and Old York Road in Waverly was founded in 1843. The name Huntingdon derives from the early community laid out on land originally granted to Tobias Starnboro in 1688 and known as "Huntingdon". This name was changed to Waverly in 1881 as a result of its rapid growth in the 19th century and the establishment of a Post Office there.

The first regular services were held in a stone building located thirty yards southwest of the present church and known as The Barracks, a powder magazine and post for Federal troops. The Reverand W.A. Hewitt was sent to the village by Bishop William R. Whittingham at the request of Thomas A. Hart who wished to have some of his grandchildren baptized. As a result, a vestry was incorporated on July 10, 1844, and in the succeeding August, The Barracks property was purchased by the Charles C. Gibson family from the Federal Government for \$12,000 and presented to the congregation. In 1845, Mr. Hewitt became the rector and on April 22, 1847, the cornerstone of the church was laid.

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(continued)

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scharf, Thomas J., History of Baltimore City and County, 1881.

Stanton, Phoebe B., The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, Baltimore CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (1968).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

VERBAL	BOUNDARY	DESCRIPTION
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LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

CITY OR TOWN	Baltimore	STATE	Maryland 2	1202
STREET & NUMBER	100 N. Holliday Street	TELEPHONE	396-4866	
ORGANIZATION	Commission for Hist. & Arch. Pres.	DATE	1977	
NAME / TITLE	Michelle Belco, Planning Assistant			

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

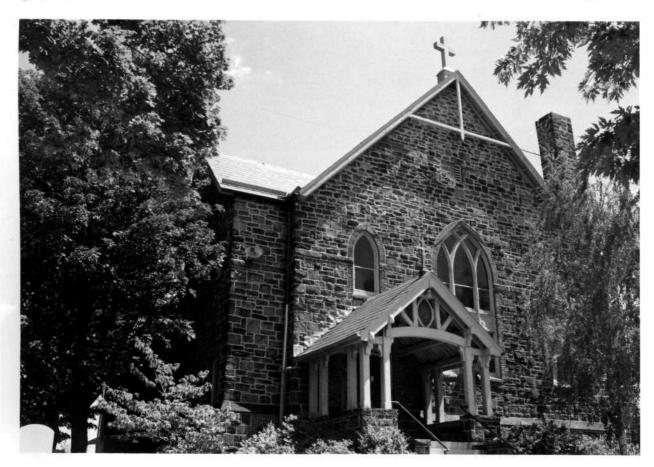
St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church Baltimore, Md.

Question 8, Continued

Samuel Wyman, a wealthy merchant and philanthropist, was responsible for many of the improvements to the church and gave an anonymous gift of nearly one half of the cost of rebuilding following the fire. Charles H. Dickey, another member of the parish, was President of the Consolidated Gas Company of Baltimore, and Talbot Denmead, President of the Maryland State Game and Fish Protective Association, donated land beyond the city limits for the establishment of a mission, St. Michael's Chapel. Perhaps the most beloved and best known of the many prominent parishoners was a woman, Lizette Woodworth Reese, a teacher and writer who immortalized St. John's in two of her books, A Victorian Village and The York Road. She taught at the parish school from 1873 to 1875 and following a long career as a teacher in the Eastern High School, was buried in St. John's Cemetery. The church is also on the National Register of Historic Places.

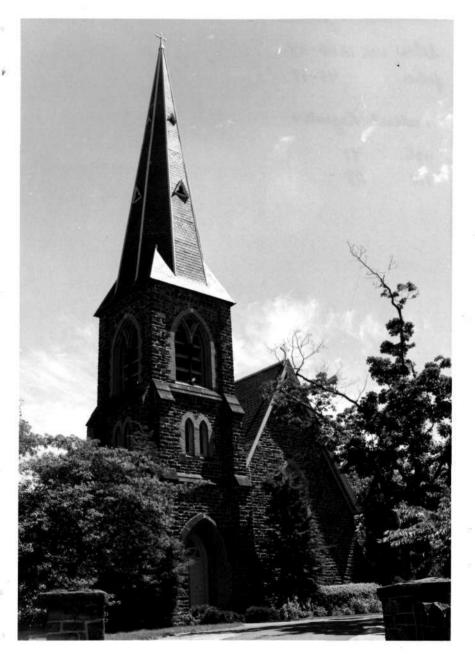


B-3731 St. John's Church, Huntingdon



B-3731

J.P. Neg. # 24-24A. St. John's School Greenmount

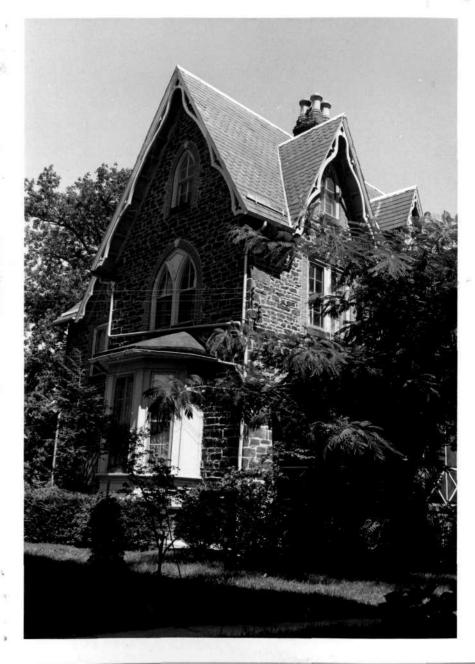


Federal Regester Neg File No. I - Neg. # 25-25A St. John's - Greenmount toes

0-3731

National Register

liber WK 1253-54



B-3731

J.P. Neg. File No Ish, John's Rectory